

# MANDREL AND METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING COMPOSITE STRUCTURES

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An apparatus and method for retaining composite structures, such as composite honeycomb structures, during manufacture are provided. The composite structure is cured on a mandrel that defines a layup surface with a grip feature. The grip feature is configured to engage the composite structure during manufacture and retain the structure in a predetermined configuration. A film adhesive can be provided between the grip feature and a tiedown ply that extends from the composite structure.

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